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BOOK DEPARTMENT

NOTES

Bailey, L. H. *The Country-Life Movement in the United States.* Pp. xi, 220. Price, \$1.25. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

Bergson, H. *Creative Evolution.* Pp. xv, 407. Price, \$2.50. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1911.

Bingham, H. *Across South America.* Pp. xvi, 405. Price, \$3.50. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin Company, 1911.

Colby, F. M. (Ed.). *The New International Year Book for 1910.* Pp. 837. Price, \$5.00. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1911.

Dodd, Agnes F. *History of Money in the British Empire and the United States.* Pp. xiv, 356. Price, \$1.60. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1911.

Duggar, J. F. *Southern Field Crops.* Pp. xxvii, 579. Price, \$1.75. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

Professor Duggar is the first to give in book form a description of the important field crops of the southern states. The contents not only reveal a thorough technical study of representative southern crops, but a clear perception of what is most essential and useful to the present and prospective tillers of these crops. Special emphasis is placed on cotton, corn, sugar-cane, wheat and tobacco; but the chapters on oats, rye, barley sorghums, hemp, peanuts, sweet potato and cassava are suggestive, practical and sufficiently comprehensive.

Each crop is discussed with reference to its botanical characteristics, varieties, nutrition content, climate, soil adaptation, fertilizer demands, cultivation methods, enemies, seed selection, harvesting and marketing. Being designed for students in the early years of agricultural study as well as for farmers, the book is written in a readable, interesting style, easily understood by anyone of average intelligence. It is to be regretted that the author did not incorporate one chapter on potato culture. Though not a distinctive southern crop, it is an important field crop in all the southern states. Appended to each chapter are "laboratory exercises" especially valuable to students in laboratory experiments and field observations.

Fisher, Irving. *The Purchasing Power of Money.* Pp. xxii, 505. Price, \$3.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

Haney, L. H. *History of Economic Thought.* Pp. xvii, 567. Price, \$2.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

Hapgood, N. *Industry and Progress.* Pp. 123. Price, \$1.25. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1911.

Writing as a publicist and a man of the world, rather than as a scholar or student, the author essays to lay before a group of young men the fundamental principles in Employment, Labor, Production, Distribution and Progress. With the literary ability for which he is so justly famous, Mr. Hapgood shows, by concrete illustration and convincing argument, the duty which the modern employer owes to those who work for him; the responsibility of the employee for the product; the necessity of modifying the productive system in such a way that it will not work unnecessary hardship to any group of individuals; the undesirability, both from a personal and a national standpoint, of maintaining an inequitable system of distribution; and finally, the necessity for personal as well as social progress. The book will commend itself to the general public as an interesting and keenly analytical statement of modern industrial conditions; and to the thoughtful students as an effective expression of one man's view in the relation between industry and progress.

Hart, A. B. *The Obvious Orient.* Pp. x, 369. Price, \$1.50. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1911.

Johnson, A. *The Almshouse—Construction and Management.* Pp. x, 263. Price, \$1.25. New York: Charities Publication Committee, 1911.

No institution has perhaps received less attention from the average citizen than this—"the fundamental institution in American poor relief." Sources of information have been scattered and scanty.

Mr. Alexander Johnson, has for years been in intimate contact with varied types of institutions, both as executive and as head of the Indiana State Board of Charities. His fund of common sense is large. These qualifications are unusual. The result is a volume of real merit which will be of great service to any local official whose duties include the erection and conduct of an almshouse.

The volume is divided into two sections. In the first the author discusses the questions of location, construction and administration of almshouses in homely and sympathetic fashion. The second part embraces a number of lengthy excerpts from various sources, such as the report of the British Poor Law Commission, The Indiana Law Governing County Almshouses, and from several individual writers on germane subjects.

Le Case Sane Economiche e Popolari del Comune di Venezia. Pp. 101. Bergamo: Istituto Italiano D'Arti Grafiche, 1911.

The report of January 1, 1911, of the Venetian Municipal Commission for Sanitary, Cheap Homes for the People, looks at Venice from a practical point of view. The book is divided into a general part, a special part and twenty-one appendices—the latter comprising the major portion of the volume.

The general part discusses housing problems and the functions of the

community in relation to these, but encroaches upon the province of the second part by pointing out in detail the inadequacy in Venice of legislation in regard to declaring buildings unfit for habitation and summarily dealing with them upon this ground.

The second, special part describes peculiar difficulties of the city, calling attention to the narrow streets and passageways in the densely populated quarters, affording little light and air; to the dampness and unhealthfulness of ground floor rooms; to the limitations upon normal expansion into outlying areas, due to the conformation of the city, and to the necessity for breaking through the present narrow bounds. The commission considers that there are openings for future growth at Lido and the island of Santa Elena. This section outlines the history of the work of the city for the improvement of housing and sanitation.

The appendices include extracts from the proceedings of the municipal council in relation to housing matters, rules for the government of the model dwellings, tables of income and expenditure for construction and maintenance, rent charts and other statistical data and plans, photographs and descriptions of the houses.

The volume contains much general discussion of the housing question, couched in more flowery terms than those to which the Anglo-Saxon reader is accustomed. It also supplies a large amount of valuable information as to the experience of Venice. The student of tenement problems will find it full of interest and worth careful reading.

Mill, John Stuart. *The Subjection of Women.* Pp. xv, 223. Price, 60 cents. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company, 1911.

In her foreword, Mrs. Catt describes the present edition of Mill's essay as "a worthy immortal," the republishing of which is justified by the persistence of three false doctrines. (1) the natural inferiority of women to men; (2) the right of men to rule and the duty of women to obey; and (3) the trade nature of marriage. Mill's splendid analysis of woman's capacity; the suppression, through custom and tradition, of her faculties, and the arbitrary assumption of power by the male half of the world need no words of commendation. The women of America would do well to place more emphasis on some of the fundamental principles which Mill so ably discusses.

Orage, A. R. *Friedrich Nietzsche, The Dionysian Spirit of the Age.* Pp. 81. Price, 75 cents. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1911.

Describing Nietzsche as "the Dionysian spirit of the age," the author attempts in the compass of this brief essay to outline the most salient point of his philosophy. His intense individualism animated by an equally intense love of humanity is well described, though the essay is, on the whole, wordy and takes the form of an apology rather than of an appreciation.

Ovington, Mary White. *Half a Man.* Pp. xi, 236. Price, \$1.00. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1911.

This volume is devoted to the study of the status of the negro in New York

and the conclusion is that he is only "Half a Man." The adjustment of a specific ethnic group to a definite environment is of more value in determining race ability than wide generalizations based on supposed race characteristics. New York negroes contend with bad housing, insanitary conditions, improper care of children, difficulties of earning a living, race prejudice, etc., all of which are carefully studied. Immorality, crime, poverty, disease, etc., are the result. The author believes that the negro is "half a man" because of these remediable social conditions, or at least that his status in New York does not show that he is incapable of becoming a whole man. Much information is given to show that in spite of bad conditions many negroes are achieving success as judged by the white man's standards and that his handicaps are chiefly environmental. Before final judgment, he must be given equal opportunity with the white man and must be allowed time in which to respond to it. Miss Ovington does not believe that New York at the present time offers this equal opportunity, but that when New York becomes really cosmopolitan, instead of a group of foreign villages, the negro will have his chance to become "a man among men."

Remsen, D. S. *Post-Mortem Use of Wealth*. Pp. xi, 131. Price, \$1.50. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1911.

This subject is discussed from two points of view: the legal and the ethical. The chapters falling under the first head were written by Mr. Remsen; the part of the book dealing with the ethical questions consists of chapters contributed by various writers.

Under the legal point of view are discussed such questions as the Power of Wealth after Death, Transmission of Property, and Plans for its Disposition, Selection of Worthy Benefactions, Taxation of Estates, etc. The author recounts the legal conditions under which property may be disposed and suggests methods of facilitating the work of the testator. The character of recent gifts and philanthropic ends to be attained also receive some attention. The economic aspect of the question and its effect on the evolution of the power of the dead hand are almost entirely neglected. Perhaps the purpose of the book justifies their omission, although these are most important problems.

The questions considered from the ethical point of view include the following: Principles that should Govern the Making of Bequests for Philanthropic Purposes, the Justification of an Inheritance Tax, Obligations of Testator to Society, the Higher Use of Wealth, etc. The chapters are very brief, are popularly written and most of them lack much in completeness. On the whole, this vital phase of the problem is very inadequately handled. The sociological significance of such a control of property after death that the maximum of social benefits will have been achieved can afford the most careful and painstaking treatment.

The book aims to "aid persons of large or small means to formulate plans for a wise use of their property after death." It will be serviceable in this respect, but it is no treatise on the problem of the disposition of accumulated wealth.

Scott, W. R. *The Constitution and Finance of English, Scottish and Irish Joint Stock Companies to 1720*, Volume III. Pp. xii, 563. Price, \$6.00. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1911.

Seawell, Molly E. *The Ladies' Battle*. Pp. 119. Price, \$1.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

The author has attempted to outline the salient arguments against suffrage. The two basic reasons why suffrage for women is undesirable are:—First, "No electorate has ever existed, or ever can exist, which cannot execute its own laws." Second, "No voter has ever claimed, or ever can claim, maintenance from another voter." Although she devotes an elaborate argument to the proof of these propositions, she fails rather than succeeds. Her logic is not convincing.

Summerhayes, Martha. *Vanished Arizona*. Pp. 319. Price, \$1.60. Salem, Mass.: Salem Press Company, 1911.

This gives the recollections of the army life of a New England woman, who in the early seventies accompanied her husband into the wilds of Arizona. As in most reminiscences there is some meaningless detail that might better have been omitted. The book is marred somewhat by little affectations and naive self-satisfaction on the part of the writer. Its chief merit is the vividness of description and the truth and reality of the narrative. It is interesting in showing the conditions in Arizona and the army at that time and the changes that have taken place since.

In 1874 there were no railroads in Arizona and few comforts at the desolate posts to which the author's husband was first assigned. We wonder how she lived through the long, hard journeys from fort to fort or endured the privations. However, the story is not all of hardships nor of Arizona. We catch glimpses of much that was gay and interesting in army life in different parts of the country.

Much praise is given to the regular soldiers, whom she seems to understand thoroughly. She is bitter against the abolishment of the canteen. She also speaks against the system of advancement of officers and the needless thoughtlessness in assigning posts.

Swift, F. H. *A History of Public Permanent Common School Funds in the United States, 1795-1905*. Pp. ix, 493. Price, \$3.75. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1911.

Webb, Sydney. *Grants in Aid*. Pp. v, 135. New York: Longmans, Green & Company, 1911.

This volume presents, practically for the first time, an outline of the English system known as "Grants in Aid." The term is applied to the money voted by the central government to the counties, etc., to help in carrying out duties for which those smaller units are primarily responsible, as for instance the relief of the poor, education, etc. Though seldom seen in our national government our states have similar policies. The book will interest students of English conditions.

Such "Grants in Aid" Mr. Webb favors, but thinks there is need for radical changes. The central government should exercise far more authority in compelling the minor communities to do good work and in introducing system and standards.

Winter, N. O. *Argentine and Her People To-Day.* Pp. xiv, 421. Price, \$3.00. Boston: L. C. Page & Co., 1911.

Yule, G. U. *An Introduction to the Theory of Statistics.* Pp. xiii, 376. Price, \$3.50. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1911.

REVIEWS

Coates, George. *Tariff Reform, Employment and Imperial Unity.* Pp. viii, 120. Price, 90 cents. New York: Longmans, Green & Company, 1911. The title of this little volume throws much light on the author's thesis. Tariff reform, which in England means protection as opposed to the present free trade policy, is the panacea that will solve the problem of unemployment and aid the movement for imperial unity. The main contention of the book is that "whenever foreign commodities are purchased instead of British the amount of employment given in Great Britain is diminished by the amount necessary to make the goods in question. From these the following deductions can be drawn, that foreign trade is wholly beneficial when it consists of the importation of all the necessary raw material, food, or commodities which we cannot produce here in England, and which do not displace British-made goods; but that as soon as we begin to import commodities which compete with and displace British produce, results injurious to the employment and welfare of our working classes begin to arise, and the ill effects of these may more than counterbalance the benefits resulting from the foreign trade" (p. 60).

The book is written in popular and almost propagandist fashion. Many of the illustrations are American or German, the author constantly attributing the success of these two countries, particularly in the case of Germany, to the protective system. The arguments are not always convincing. For example, on page 94, in speaking of England buying goods abroad, he admits that to settle the balance of trade, the other nation would have to make purchases in England. "This is possibly true, but if so the goods might be raw material necessitating very little labor." One is inclined to ask what raw material England exports in bulk enough to make this argument wholly valid. The author has closed his eyes to other factors that may help to explain the crisis that England is facing and the relative prosperity of Germany such for example, as the emphasis Germany has for years placed on the industrial efficiency of its workers and the comparative neglect of England in this field.

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